

Claim Amendments

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.

CLAIMS

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Claim 1. (Currently amended) A portable packaging device for individually packaging an article within a flexible tubular sheet, the device having an inlet end and an outlet end, and comprising:

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a body formed by an inner core having an inlet opening and an outlet opening, and a passageway there between for passing there through an article to be packaged, a casing comprising a surrounding casing wall, and a base wall that joins an end of the surrounding casing wall to the body, the body and the casing defining a storage space and a dispensing opening at the inlet end, wherein the device can retain a length of the flexible tubular sheet within the storage space, wherein the tubular sheet ~~can be~~ is dispensed through the dispensing opening and into the inlet opening of the inner core, the article to be packaged ~~can be~~ is inserted through the inlet opening and inside the tubular sheet, and the tubular sheet ~~can be~~ is gathered and closed at each end to form a closed packaged article, and

(a means for separating the closed packaged article from a trailing portion of the tubular sheet, to remove the closed individually packaged article through the outlet opening, and said separating means comprises a cutting blade positioned adjacent the outlet opening of the inner core, for cutting through a trailing portion of the tubular film to form the closed individually packaged article.

Claim 2. Canceled

Claim 3. (Original) The portable packaging device according to Claims 1, further comprising the length of flexible tubular sheet.

Claim 4. Canceled

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Claim 5. (Currently Amended) The portable packaging device according to Claim 3, wherein the tubular sheet has an outer surface, the outer surface facing inward when the tubular sheet is passed through the inner core, the outer surface comprising an adhesive material, whereby a leading portion and a trailing portion of the tubular sheet ~~can be~~ closed are closeable on each side of article with the adhesive material, thereby forming the closed individually package article.

Claim 6. (Original) The portable packaging device according to Claim 5 wherein the tubular film comprises a three-dimensional film having an outer surface that comprises a plurality of recessed pressure sensitive adhesive sites and a plurality of collapsible protrusions that serve as stand-offs to prevent premature sticking of the adhesive sites to a target surface until a force sufficient to collapse the protrusions has been applied to the opposed surface of the film.

Claim 7. (Original) The package device according to Claim 6, wherein the article to be packaged is a waste-filled disposable absorbent article.

Claim 8. (Original) The portable packaging device according to Claim 1, further comprising a cap covering at least a portion of the dispensing opening for retaining the length of non-resilient flexible tubular sheet.

Claim 9. (Original) The packaging device according to Claim 1, further comprising a handle to facilitate holding and carrying the device.

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) A portable packaging device for individually packaging an article within a flexible tubular sheet, the device having an inlet end and an outlet end, and comprising:

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[a body] formed by an inner core having an inlet opening and an outlet opening, and a passageway there between for passing there through an article to be packaged,

[a casing] comprising a surrounding casing wall, and an base wall that joins an end of the surrounding casing wall to the body, the body and the casing defining a [storage space] and a dispensing opening at the inlet end, wherein the device can retain a length of the flexible tubular sheet within the storage space, wherein the tubular sheet ~~can be~~ is dispensed through the dispensing opening and into the inlet opening of the inner core, the article to be packaged ~~can be~~ is inserted through the inlet opening and inside the tubular sheet, and the tubular sheet ~~can be~~ is gathered and closed at each end to form a closed packaged article, and wherein the shape of the outlet opening and a portion of the passageway are [oval or elliptical]; and

[a means for separating] the closed packaged article from a trailing portion of the tubular sheet, to remove the closed individually packaged article through the outlet opening, and said [separating means] comprises a cutting blade positioned adjacent the outlet opening of the inner core, for cutting through a trailing portion of the tubular film to form the closed individually packaged article.

Claim 11. Canceled

Claims 12-20. Withdrawn